

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 213

By Marrero

A RESOLUTION to designate the Pink Palace Family of Museums in Memphis as the West Tennessee Museum of Science and Technology.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this General Assembly to recognize and reward those noble organizations and institutions that provide rich and meaningful learning experiences for our society; and

WHEREAS, one such establishment is the Pink Palace Family of Museums, which, throughout its venerable existence, has inspired countless students and teachers to learn how history, science, technology, and nature helped shape the Mid-South region; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1930 as the Memphis Museum of Science and Industry, the Pink Palace Family of Museums is currently a wide-ranging collection of some of the country's finest historic, educational, scientific, and technological attractions, including the Pink Palace Museum, the Crew Training International IMAX Theater, the Sharpe Planetarium, the Lichterman Nature Center, and the historic Mallory Neely and Magevney Houses; and

WHEREAS, attracting visitors from all over the country, the Pink Palace Family of Museums is one of the largest museum complexes in the Southeast, the only science and technology museum in the Western Grand Division of Tennessee, and the most visited museum in the State; and

WHEREAS, through its rich collections, engaging programs, and 20,000 square feet of thought-provoking science and technology exhibits, our citizenry is able to reflect on the past, understand the present, and imagine the future; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its permanent displays, this Tennessee treasure hosts a plethora of innovative and high-quality traveling exhibitions on such intriguing topics as dinosaurs, genetics, nutrition, and anatomy, among many, many others; and

WHEREAS, it is home to the only large planetarium in West Tennessee, and its Lichterman Nature Center was the first accredited nature center in the United States; and

WHEREAS, this extraordinary museum system is a long-standing member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers and is accredited by the American Association of Museums, a highly-coveted distinction that is held by less than seven percent of America's museums; and

WHEREAS, its dedicated Associate Curators, most of whom reside and work in the Volunteer State, are world-class specialists in geology, biology, anthropology, and physics; and

WHEREAS, during its eighty-one years of existence, the Pink Palace Family of Museums has provided a rich learning experience for the public, recording our state's scientific and technological progress and encouraging our society's knowledge and understanding of these important areas; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge those estimable individuals who maintain and promote this exemplary museum, applaud their unwavering commitment to enlightening, as well as entertaining, the citizenry of this great State, and confer special status upon the Pink Palace Family of Museums as a true Tennessee treasure; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Pink Palace Family of Museums in Memphis is hereby designated the West Tennessee Museum of Science and Technology.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we recognize and honor the administration and staff of the Pink Palace Family of Museums for their meritorious service to the good people of Tennessee, the United States, and the world, applaud their diligence in advancing scientific and technological education, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in the museum's future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.